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sect has been preserved in a perfect state, as well as the cell in which it lay for so many months, and the empty shell of its chrysalis.

The following account of the Sphinx Atropos, is taken from Shaw's Zoology.

"The upper wings are of a fine dark grey colour, with a few slight variations of dull orange and white. The under wings are of a bright orange colour, marked by a pair of transverse black bands. The body is also orange coloured, with the sides marked by black bars; while along the top of the back, from the morax to the tail, runs a broad blue-grey stripe. On the top of the thorax is a very large patch of a most singular appearance, exactly representing the usual figure of a skull, and is of a pale grey, varied with dull ochre and black. When in the least disturbed or irritated, this insect emits a stridulous sound, something like the squeaking of a mouse; and from this circumstance, as well as from the mark above-mentioned on the thorax, it is held in much dread by the vulgar, in several parts of Europe; its appearance being regarded as a kind of ill-omen or harbinger of approaching fate. Reaumur mentions that the members of a female convent were thrown into great consternation, at the appearance of one of these insects, which happened to fly in during the evening, at one of the windows of the dormitory. The caterpillar from which this curious sphinx proceeds, is in the highest degree beautiful, and far surpasses in size every other European insect of the kind, measuring sometimes nearly five inches in length, and being of a proportional thickness. This caterpillar is principally found on the potato and the jessamine, which are its favourite food. It changes into a chrysalis in the month of September, retiring for that purpose deep into the earth, and the perfect insect emerging in the following June or July.

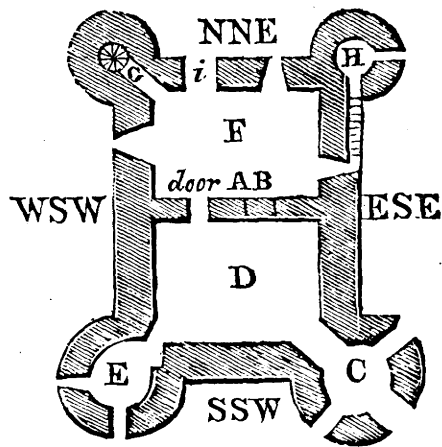
The sphinx atropos is generally considered as a rare insect, and as the caterpillar feeds chiefly by night, concealing itself during the day under leaves, &c. it is not often discovered. Yet from some singular circumstances favourable to its breed, there are seasons in which it is even plentiful; as was the case in the autumn of 1804, in which the caterpillar was so common in some counties in England, as to be prejudicial to the potato plants in some parts of Cornwall and Surrey."



TIRDAGLASS CASTLE.

We here give a sketch and plan of the building, called by the peasantry, the Old Court, situate at Terryglass, in the barony of Lower Ormond, and county Tipperary, on the banks of Lough Dearg, on the river Shannon.

This building, which lies on the declivity of a rising ground, appears to have been a quadrilateral one, with round towers at each corner. It is now so demolished that it is difficult to say what its original elevation might have been; but it is evident from the remains of windows still extant, that it consisted of at least two stories, and indeed it is probable that it did not exceed that height. The walls are of great thickness, when compared to the elevation—they being at least five feet thick, and built with a considerable batter or inclination, for the height of ten or twelve feet from the foundation, which was laid on the naked green sod. It is strange what walls of so great solidity could have been intended for, as this building must have been erected long prior to the use of gunpowder. Indeed, the very great antiquity of the structure is sufficiently indicated by the fact, that no chimney or fire-place is to be found in any part of it.



Through the wall, between the apartments D and F are two holes at A and B, the use of which is unknown. They possibly served for communicating commands from one room to the other. The entrance was at C, in the southern tower, which served the purposes of a hall, and was lighted by two windows, the one facing towards the east, and the other towards the west. The door-way between C and D appears to have been secured on the side next D, with a strong bolt, the chamber for receiving which is still extant. D was an apartment about twelve yards long, by two-thirds of that dimension in breadth; and F was of equal area with D, but different in this, that F was lighted by windows on three sides, while there does not appear to have been any window whatever in D. The stairs, the steps of which were not more than eighteen inches in length, were in the south tower, and on the geometrical construction. The most extraordinary thing about this building is the eastern tower, into which the only entrance, now visible, appears to have been at a height of better than twenty feet. A flight of narrow stone steps on the outside of the E. S. E. wall of the castle, led to the door of this tower, whose use it is now difficult to conjecture. Terryglass, or as it was anciently called Tirdaglass, (i. e.) the country of the two greens was formerly famed for its monastery, founded by St. Columba, about the year 548. There is but little now remaining to indicate the vestiges of so celebrated a seat of religion. The ruins of the ancient church are spacious, but exhibit no remarkable workmanship, and the modern church, hard by, is also in a shameful state of dilapidation.

There is a neat Roman Catholic chapel in the village.

On the old history of this place we may remark, that it is related St. Patrick visited Terryglass, and there baptized several of the inhabitants of Thomond, who came across the Shannon to him.

St. Colman, the founder of Terryglass Monastery, died the 13th of December, in the year 552, and was interred there.

Archdall says this place was destroyed in 1140, by the people of O'Maney, a small territory about the barony of Tiaquin, in the county Galway.

The Danes destroyed and plundered Terryglass in 842, and the town and abbey were destroyed by accidental fires in the years 801, 1112, and 1162. B.

#### THE COMIC ANNUAL.

BY MISS LOUISA HENRIETTA SHERIDAN.

We have already allowed our readers an opportunity of judging, in some measure, of the entertainment afforded in this very amusing little publication, from the humorous poem entitled "Miss-nomers," which we inserted in our 73d number. The work altogether overflows with wit and humour—and although we certainly need not travel to England for the one or the other, as—

"Our own green isle more wit produces  
Than is sufficient for her uses;  
Dublin no market is for wit,  
'Tis common, no one values it;  
But we export it—and our parts  
Bear highest price in foreign marts."